



“State of the Environment Report” and Environmental Indicators Initiative



EPA's VISION

**“State of the Environment Report”
and Better Environmental Indicators
Enable the Agency to Manage for
Better Results**



Goals

- **Short-term**: Gather and develop information that will help us understand where we are and where we need to go in order to make sound and strategic environmental and health protection decisions
- **Long-term**: Bring together national, regional, state and tribal indicator efforts to describe the condition of critical environmental areas and human health concerns

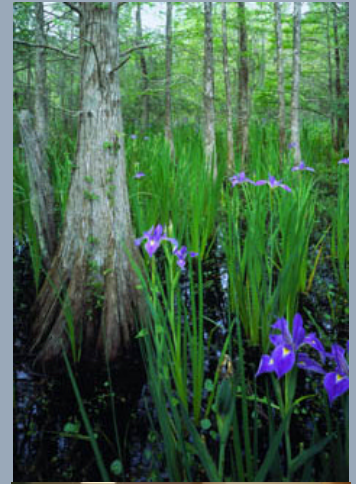
Key Things EPA's Report Will Do

- Describe current environmental conditions and trends using existing data and indicators
- Present what is known and unknown about environmental trends and conditions
- Identify data gaps and research needs
- Discuss the challenges government faces in filling these gaps
- Be accompanied by supporting technical information
- Be circulated for public review and comment

Content Development Framework

Major Themes:

- Ecological condition
- Human health
- Clean air
- Pure water
- Better protected land



Selecting Issues & Questions

- Selection of issues and questions based on:
 - ◆ Public interest
 - ◆ Need to educate and raise public awareness consistent with EPA's strategic goals



Science Review

- External peer review of:
 - ◆ Indicators
 - ◆ Supporting data
 - ◆ Data gaps



Scientific foundation for the public report

- Organized around ecological and human health conditions
- Describes and documents the indicators selected for the Report
- Consistent with EPA Science Advisory Board, National Research Council, and the Heinz Center's indicator efforts

What to Expect and When

What to Expect in the Near-Term

May – June, 2002

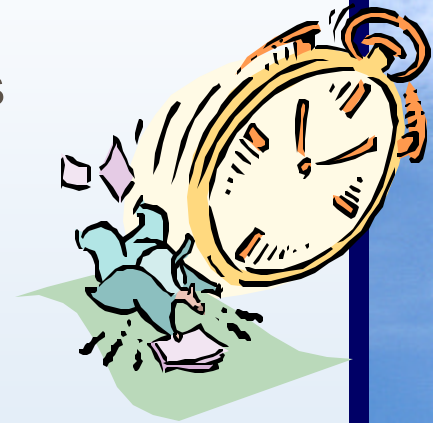
Indicator Review and Evaluation; Outreach; Development of the supporting document

July – November, 2002

Draft Public Report; Internal Reviews/Partner Reviews
Final Draft Public Report

What We Hope to Deliver in the Future

- ✓ “On-Line” or “Virtual” SoE Report
- ✓ “Drill-Down” Capability for Environmental Indicators
- ✓ Using Environmental Indicators in Strategic Planning and Performance-Based Management



Contact Information

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